

Business

Jefferies analyst is City's top stock-picker

Callum Jones Markets Reporter

A healthcare analyst at Jefferies has been named the City's best stock-picker as brokers continue to scale back their research operations.

James Vane-Tempest came out on top in this year's StarMine analyst awards. JP Morgan Cazenove was ranked the best broker.

Reuters calculates the rate at which analysts beat industry benchmarks, generating what it has called "excess return". Mr Vane-Tempest, a former investment banker at JP Morgan and pharmaceutical analyst at

Goldman Sachs, had an excess return rate of 26.3 per cent.

With a rate of 18 per cent, Sam England, a retail, consumer, healthcare and real estate analyst at Berenberg, came second in the stock-picking rankings. Tyler Broda, a metal and mining analyst at RBC Capital Markets, was third, with 17 per cent.

The total number of analysts covering UK-listed stocks shrank by 5 per cent last year, a decline that Reuters attributed to the challenges of making money by producing research. A drive to refocus on interesting stocks resulted in the number

of companies covered by research falling by 4 per cent.

With 15 awards, JP Morgan was named the City's top broker. Numis Securities, which won 13 awards, came second. Investec Securities and Jefferies won eight awards apiece.

When ranking analysts on their earnings estimations, David Perry and Glen Liddy, who cover equipment and machinery for JP Morgan, came first and third respectively. Gerald Khoo, transport analyst at Liberum Capital, was second.

Christopher Brown of JP Morgan was ranked the top financial analyst.